

Proclamation

Presented

In Recognition of White Cane Safety Day

WHEREAS, "White Cane Safety Day" is a national observance in the United States; on October 6, 1964, a joint resolution of the United States Congress was signed into law, the resolution authorized President Lyndon B. Johnson to proclaim October 15 of each year as "White Cane Safety Day"; in 2011 "White Cane Safety Day" was also named "Blind Americans Equality Day" by President Barack Obama; and

WHEREAS, "White Cane Safety Day" reminds the public that the State of Hawai'i Department of Human Services' Ho'opono Services for the Blind provides services to the blind and visually impaired statewide; in the last fiscal year, Ho'opono helped more than 500 blind and visually impaired citizens; and there are more than 3,500 blind and visually impaired individuals listed on the state's blind registry; and

WHEREAS, "White Cane Safety Day" in Hawai'i will be recognized with the 22nd White Cane Walk on O'ahu, as well as similar White Cane Walks on the islands of Kaua'i, Maui, and Hawai'i in Hilo and Kona; the purpose of the walks is to make the public aware of the white cane, and to raise awareness about the importance of the white cane to the independence and mobility of the blind or visually impaired; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i State Department of Human Services, Ho'opono Services for the Blind will be holding its annual **White Cane Safety Awareness Day Walk** on October 17, 2014 through downtown Honolulu, advancing its vision that "Blindness is not a barrier to success";

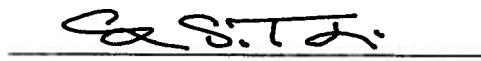
NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim October 17, 2014, as

"WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing the achievements of people who are blind or visually impaired, and a white cane as the symbol of independence, freedom, confidence and empowerment for a blind person.

DONE at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this fifteenth day of October, 2014.


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i


SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i